

Message Text

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41

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 OMB-01 SCCT-02 DRC-01 /137 W

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P 051510Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 254

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1113

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, ZA, PO, MZ

SUBJECT: PORTUGUESE/FRELIMO MEETING IN LUSAKA

REF: A) LUSAKA 1083 (NOTAL) B) LUSAKA 1079

1. PORTUGUESE FONMIN SOARES ARRIVED LUSAKA 0600 LOCAL JUNE 5 FOR TALKS WITH FRELIMO CHIEF SAMORA MACHEL. MEETINGS BEGAN WITH PUBLIC SESSION AND OPENING REMARKS BY PRESIDENT KAUNDA AT 1500 JUNE 5 AFTER BRIEF NOON COURTESY CALL BY SOARES AT STATE HOUSE. MACHEL ALREADY IN LUSAKA (REF A)

2. MOFA UNDER SECRETARY MANDA TOLD EMBOFF JUNE 4 SOARES-FRELIMO TALKS WOULD BE PRIVATE, VERY LOW-KEY AFFAIR INVOLVING ON GRZ SIDE ONLY "A FEW PEOPLE AT STATE HOUSE." (COMMENT: PRESUMABLY KAUNDA, FONMIN MWAANGA, MARK CHONA, MOFA PERMSEC MASANINGA AND CHONA AIDE PETER KASANDA WHO HAVE BEEN THE IN GROUP ON ARRANGEMENTS FROM THE START -- REF B) SAID GRZ EXPECTED INITIAL SESSIONS WOULD BE EXPLORATORY
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AND FINAL RESOLUTION OF DIFFERENCES WOULD TAKE MUCH TIME.

IN RESPONSE QUESTION, MANDA STATED NO RPT NO PARTICIPATION BY DIPLOMATIC CORPS PROJECTED, BUT ASKED WHETHER AMBASSADOR WILLING SEE EITHER SOARES OR MACHEL. EMBOFF REPLIED AMBASSADOR WOULD HAVE TO ANSWER, BUT EMBASSY NOT RPT NOT SEEKING MEETING.

3. MANDA SAID BOTH SOARES AND MACHEL CONSIDERED HONORED GUESTS. ASKED IF THIS MEANT GRZ READY RECOGNIZE PORTUGAL, HE REPLIED PLEASANTLY, "CERTAINLY, IF IT APPEARS PORTUGUESE HAVE COME BRINGING PEACE AND DEMOCRACY." NOTED RECOGNITION AND FUTURE ZAMBIA-PORTUGUESE RELATIONS OBVIOUSLY DEPENDENT ON PROGRESS OF TALKS WITH LIBERATION GROUPS. SAID GRZ DELIGHTED WITH EVENTS WHICH OFFERED PROSPECT MUCH GREATER PEACE AND SECURITY ON ZAMBIA'S BORDERS.

4. MANDA ASKED WHAT WAS US ATTITUDE TOWARD TALKS? EMBOFF REPLIED US PLEASED BY DEVELOPMENTS, OBSERVING EVOLUTION OF TALKS, HOPEFUL FOR STABILITY IN AREA, BUT PLAYING NO RPT NO DIRECT ROLE IN EVENTS. MANDA CLOSED WITH COMMENT GRZ HOPED US COMPANIES WOULD NOT RPT NOT TRY TO INTERFERE WITH HOPEFUL PROSPECTS, ESPECIALLY IN ANGOLA. EMBOFF REPLIED SUCH INVOLVED SEEMED EXTREMELY UNLIKELY.

5. IN OTHER DISCUSSIONS, ANGOLAN LIBERATION GROUPS HERE INFORMED EMBOFF THERE CURRENTLY NO RPT NO PLANS FOR THEM TO MEET SOARES. COREMO REP SAID SAME THING, WHICH SOARES CONFIRMED IN ARRIVAL PRESS CONFERENCE (SEPTTEL). SOARES SAID HE WOULD MEET WITH COREMO AND ALL OTHER GROUPS LATER, BUT NOT IN CONTEXT LUSAKA TALKS.

6. COMMENT: ZAMBIAN OPTIMISM UNDERSTANDABLE BECAUSE BOTH SIDES ACCEPTED LONGSTANDING KAUNDA OFFER OF ZAMBIAN GOOD OFFICES FOR SETTLEMENT OF DISCUSSIONS. ZAMBIA HAS MUCH TO GAIN FROM STABLE EVOLUTION PORTUGUESE AFRICAN TERRITORIES INCLUDING RELAXATION OF TENSIONS ALONG SIGNIFICANT PORTION ITS SOUTHERN AND WESTERN FRONTIERS, IMPROVEMENT OF ZAMBIAN POSITION IN CONFRONTATION WITH RHODESIA AND FIRMER POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC BASE FOR CONTINUED USE OF ANGOLA/MOZAMBIQUE TRANSPORT ROUTES. KAUNDA REMARKS AT OPENING SESSION BEING TRANSMITTED AS PART USIS BACKGROUNDER ON DAY'S EVENTS, INCLUDING SOARES ARRIVAL.
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